



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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L. Preston Bryant, Jr.
Secretary of Natural Resources

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Director

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April 25, 2008

ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO ALL BIDDERS:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Reference - Invitation For Bids: | IFB #08-12-PJ |
| Commodity: | Estuarine Sediment Sample Toxicity Tests |
| Dated: | April 9, 2008 |
| For Delivery To: | Department of Environmental Quality |
| Bid Due: | May 8, 2008, 2:00 p.m. |
| Prebid Conference: | April 24, 2008, 1:00 p.m. |

The above is hereby changed to read:

See page 2 of this addendum for responses to procedural questions from the prebid conference.

Note: A signed acknowledgment of this addendum must be received at the location indicated on the IFB either prior to the bid due date and hour or attached to your bid. Signature on this addendum does not substitute for your signature on the original bid document. The original bid document must be signed.

Sincerely,

Patsy Jones
Contract Officer
Phone: (804) 698-4335

Name of Firm

Signature/Title

Date

Procedural Questions from the Toxicity Test Pre-Bid Conference

John Macauley, the Quality Assurance Officer at the EPA/ORD Gulf Ecology Division, Gulf Breeze, FL, was responsible for QA of results from national toxicity testing contracts for the National Coastal Assessment Program. He was consulted in reference to the following two questions posed during the pre-bid conference on April 24, 2008. His responses are summarized following each question.

Question 1:

Are sediments to be press-sieved (to remove predators) before testing? EMAP (EPA/620/R-95/008) does not specify for amphipod tests but recommends 1.0 mm for sediment tests with mysids and penaeid shrimp (sect. 15.9.2). Also, at least some EMAP studies have press-sieved samples using a 1.0 mm screen. ASTM (E 1525 and E 1367) provides sieving as an option and EPA-ORD (EPA 600/R-94/025) recommends 1 mm press sieving. (CBI recommends 1.0 mm sieving of test sediments).

Response 1:

Yes. Press sieving through a 1.0 mm screen is highly recommended and preferred for the removal of predators and large particles prior to standardized toxicity testing with *Ampelisca abdita*.

Question 2:

For tests with sediments collected from low salinity regions, will lab be held to EMAP criterion of 30 ± 2 g/kg salinity for overlying water (may be lower due to pore water exchange and sediment to water ratio (1:3))?

Response 2:

Excess dilution has been observed at times and may be inevitable when sediment from low salinity regions has high pore water content. As long as the prevalent ambient conditions during the test are fully documented, falling slightly below the 30 ± 2 ‰ criterion does not necessarily invalidate the results of a test. Such data are accepted but are flagged and commented upon in the database.